

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

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MICHELLE MAREE SHAFFER,

Petitioner,

Case No. 1:23-cv-398

v.

Hon. Phillip J. Green

ERIN GRIFFITH,

Respondent.

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**NOTICE TO PETITIONER REGARDING CONSENT**

This notice is to inform you that your case was filed on April 18, 2023 and has been assigned to Magistrate Judge Phillip J. Green. In accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 73, you are hereby notified that the United States magistrate judges of this district court may, upon your consent, conduct any or all proceedings in this case, including entry of a final judgment. If you consent, any appeal from a judgment entered by a magistrate judge shall be taken directly to the United States Court of Appeals for this judicial circuit in the same manner as an appeal from any other judgment of a district court.

Magistrate judges have greater flexibility in their schedules than district judges, who have heavy criminal caseloads that take priority over civil matters. Accordingly, the magistrate judges are generally able to address habeas petitions sooner. Magistrate judges are experienced trial judges who handle a great number of prisoner habeas petitions.

Your decision to consent to the dispositive jurisdiction of a United States magistrate judge is entirely voluntary. If you do not consent to a magistrate judge, the case will be randomly assigned to a district judge. The magistrate judge already assigned to this case would continue to decide all matters, including the merits of your habeas petition by report and recommendation.

Please complete and sign the attached Statement Regarding Consent and return it to the court on or before **May 10, 2023**. If the statement is not received by the deadline, the case will be randomly assigned to a district judge, with an automatic referral to the magistrate judge named above.

CLERK OF COURT

Dated: April 19, 2023

By: /s/ E. Doerr  
Deputy Clerk

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**PETITIONER'S STATEMENT REGARDING CONSENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby voluntarily consent to the United States magistrate judge conducting all proceedings in this case, including entry of a final judgment and all post-judgment matters.

\_\_\_\_\_ I request that this case be assigned to a district judge.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner Michelle Maree Shaffer